

Book Discussion

Under Deadman's Skin by Jane Katch

1. Share the excerpt that you brought to class: a passage that you found interesting and explain what it means to you.
2. Discuss Jane Katch's perspective on the violent play in her classroom and how her views changed over the year.
3. In what ways should the family, school, and community work together to address the violent and antisocial images that are presented to children?
4. How should parents and teachers react when they are concerned about the violent or perhaps hateful play that children engage in? What were some of the strategies that Katch implemented with her students?
5. What are your personal experiences with violent pretend play and/or teasing behaviors as a child and teen? How did these experiences affect you, both in the short-term and the long-term?
6. After reading the book, how would you answer Katch's question: "Can I make a place in school for understanding these fantasies, instead of shutting them out?"